

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON. PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

M. ANNE SWANSON
DIRECT DIAL 202-776-2534
aswanson@dialaw.com

WASHINGTON, D.C.
1200 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 800 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036-6802
TELEPHONE 202-776-2000 • FACSIMILE 202-776-2222

~~ORIGINAL~~
ORIGINAL
ONE RAVINIA DRIVE SUITE 1600
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30346-2108
TELEPHONE 770-901-8800
FACSIMILE 770-901-8874

February 13, 2003

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

FEB 13 2003

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: **Notification of Ex Parte Communication**
MB Docket Nos. 02-277, 01-235, 96-197, 01-317, and 00-244

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, that on February 11, 2003, George Mahoney, General Counsel and Secretary of Media General, Inc., and I met with the following individuals from the Media Bureau to discuss Media General, Inc.'s interest in repeal of the newspaperibroadcast cross-ownership rule in all markets: Paul Gallant, Esquire; Royce Sherlock, Esquire; Mania Baghdadi, Esquire; Marcia Glauberman; Judith Herman; Roger Holberg, Esquire; and Debra Sabourin, Esquire.

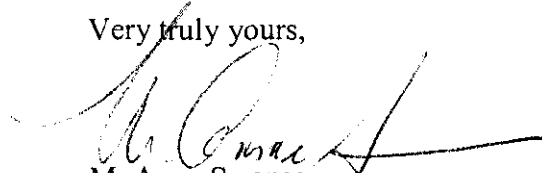
The discussion addressed Media General's reasons for repeal of the rule; the public interest benefits, such as the delivery of more and better local news, that result from convergence of newspaper and broadcast properties; Media General's experience that there is no "real world" connection between diversity of ownership and viewpoint; Media General's concern over any FCC attempt to craft a single rule to address ownership of various types of media outlets, including newspapers; Media General's view that including the newspaperibroadcast cross-ownership rule within the scope of such a unitary rule would violate Equal Protection precedents; and Media General's view that spectrum scarcity no longer exists.

Along with a copy of this letter, Media General is delivering to each of the individuals in yesterday's meeting a copy of the comments and reply comments that Media General filed in the above-referenced dockets on January 2, 2003, and February 3, 2003, respectively. Please note that the copy of reply comments that is being delivered reflects a minor correction in the fourth line of text on page 25, where the word "retention" has been changed to "repeal." We regret this minor error, which was not corrected in the copy of the reply comments filed on February 3, 2003.

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire
February 13, 2003
Page 2

As required by section 1.1206(b), two copies of this letter are being submitted for each of the above-referenced dockets.

Very truly yours,



M. Anne Swanson

cc (by hand-delivery):

Paul Gallant, Esquire
Royce Sherlock, Esquire
Mania Bagdadi, Esquire
Ms. Marcia Glaubennan
Ms. Judith Herman
Roger Holberg, Esquire
Debra Sabourin, Esquire